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Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
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On July 15, 2003

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP

By: [Signature]

PATENT  
Attorney Docket No.: A5031/T43300  
Client Ref. No.: 005031 USA/TCG/WCVD/LE  
TTC No. 016301-043300US

#91A  
7/23/03  
Smith

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:  
  
SCOTT BRAD HERNER  
  
Application No.: 10/078,016  
  
Filed: February 15, 2002  
  
For: HIGH THROUGHPUT PROCESS  
FOR THE FORMATION OF A  
REFRACTORY METAL NUCLEATION  
LAYER

Examiner: Thanh T. Nguyen  
  
Art Unit: 2813  
  
RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION  
Mailed January 15, 2003

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed January 15, 2003, please enter the following amendments and remarks. A petition for a three month extension of time to respond is filed herewith.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 7 of this paper.